

Teleconferencing at SPBID

From: [REDACTED]
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Good morning, South Park BID.

I see that you all allow participants in your board meetings to use teleconferencing. I'm concerned that the manner in which you do this violates the Brown Act insofar as you don't have specified teleconferencing locations and, potentially, that you seem to require people who want to participate via teleconference to identify themselves to Katie Kiefer in order to do so.

The first issue is a clear violation of the Brown Act at section 54953(a)(3), which requires specific locations where the public can participate via teleconference and it requires those locations to be named in the agenda and open to the public. Your agenda doesn't specify any teleconferencing locations.

The second is not so clearly a violation, but it seems likely that requiring people who participate via teleconference to identify themselves would run afoul of section 54953.3, which states clearly that "[a] member of the public shall not be required, as a condition to attendance at a meeting of a legislative body of a local agency, to register his or her name, to provide other information, to complete a questionnaire, or otherwise to fulfill any condition precedent to his or her attendance."

The League of California Cities has published an extraordinarily useful guide to complying with the Brown Act with respect to teleconferencing, which you may find helpful:

<https://www.cacities.org/UploadedFiles/LeagueInternet/6e/6ed3a54b-6766-4b67-bee9-e024ea3a3d2b.pdf>

Also, I'm told that the City Clerk's office, despite statements to the contrary, will advise BIDs on Brown Act compliance, so they're potentially another resource for you.

Thanks for your attention to this important matter,

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